



# BROCKTON

## Plymouth County



[NARRATIVE](#)  
[GEOGRAPHY](#)  
[GOVERNMENT](#)  
[DEMOGRAPHICS](#)  
[HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS](#)  
[TRANSPORTATION](#)  
[CULTURE AND RECREATION](#)  
[MISCELLANEOUS](#)



## NARRATIVE

### **Narrative**

The City of Brockton is a major urban community south of Boston with a rich industrial history. Brockton was the shoe manufacturing center of the region from the late 18th century through the 1950's. In the Civil War, it was claimed that half of the Union Army wore boots made in Brockton and at the height of the shoe industry in 1929, more than 30,000 people were employed by shoe manufacturers in a city which dominated the world footwear market until after World War II.

The city was the site of pioneering in electrical power in 1883 when the third electric power station in the country was opened under the supervision of Thomas Edison, and in 1884 when Edison returned to witness the opening of the City Theater, the first in the world to be lighted from a central power station. The city was also the site of the first fire station to be electrically operated.

The community prides itself on its diversity; of populations, of interests and of facilities. Brockton hosts the Fuller Museum of Art, felt by residents to be one of the finest small museums in the country, as well as the Brockton Historical Society Complex with museums devoted to shoes, fire fighting artifacts and Thomas Edison. Residents take special pride in their sports heroes, who include world heavyweight boxing champion Rocky Marciano and middleweight champion Marvelous Marvin Hagler. William H. McGunnigle, less well-known but of great importance, was a Brockton resident credited with inventing the first baseball glove.

(Seal supplied by community. Narrative based on information provided by the Massachusetts Historical Commission)



# GEOGRAPHY

---

## Location

Southeastern Massachusetts, bordered by Easton on the west; Stoughton, Avon, and Holbrook on the north; Abington, Whitman, and East Bridgewater on the east; and West Bridgewater on the south. Brockton is 20 miles south of Boston; 30 miles northeast of Providence, Rhode Island; and 208 miles from New York City.

**Total Area:** 21.60 sq. miles

**Land Area:** 21.47 sq. miles

**Population:** 92,788

**Density:** 4,322 per sq. mile

## Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Brockton Station)

Normal temperature in January.....26.9°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.2°F

Normal annual precipitation.....45.5"

## U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Brockton, Whitman

## Regional Planning Agency

Old Colony

## Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Brockton



# GOVERNMENT

---

## Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 580-7123

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

## Form of Government

Mayor-Council

## Year Incorporated

As a town: 1821

As a city: 1881

## Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	40,579		
Democrats	20,709	51.0	%
Republicans	5,235	12.9	%
Other parties	0	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	14,635	36.1	%

## Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



# DEMOGRAPHICS

**Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000**

Geographic Area: Brockton city, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	94,304	100.0	<b>HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE</b>		
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>			Total population.....	94,304	100.0
Male.....	45,206	47.9	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	7,552	8.0
Female.....	49,098	52.1	Mexican.....	404	0.4
Under 5 years.....	6,846	7.3	Puerto Rican.....	4,545	4.8
5 to 9 years.....	7,522	8.0	Cuban.....	152	0.2
10 to 14 years.....	7,698	8.2	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	2,451	2.6
15 to 19 years.....	6,738	7.1	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	86,752	92.0
20 to 24 years.....	6,063	6.4	White alone.....	54,902	58.2
25 to 34 years.....	13,735	14.6	<b>RELATIONSHIP</b>		
35 to 44 years.....	15,027	15.9	Total population.....	94,304	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	11,708	12.4	In households.....	92,428	98.0
55 to 59 years.....	4,501	4.8	Householder.....	33,675	35.7
60 to 64 years.....	3,402	3.6	Spouse.....	14,148	15.0
65 to 74 years.....	5,507	5.8	Child.....	31,968	33.9
75 to 84 years.....	3,984	4.2	Own child under 18 years.....	22,894	24.3
85 years and over.....	1,573	1.7	Other relatives.....	7,300	7.7
Median age (years).....	34.0	(X)	Under 18 years.....	2,665	2.8
18 years and over.....	68,050	72.2	Nonrelatives.....	5,337	5.7
Male.....	31,799	33.7	Unmarried partner.....	2,405	2.6
Female.....	36,311	38.5	In group quarters.....	1,876	2.0
21 years and over.....	64,299	68.2	Institutionalized population.....	1,367	1.4
62 years and over.....	13,016	13.8	Noninstitutionalized population.....	509	0.5
65 years and over.....	11,064	11.7	<b>HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE</b>		
Male.....	4,403	4.7	Total households.....	33,675	100.0
Female.....	6,661	7.1	Family households (families).....	22,748	67.6
<b>RACE</b>			With own children under 18 years.....	11,775	35.0
One race.....	86,966	92.2	Married-couple family.....	14,148	42.0
White.....	57,999	61.5	With own children under 18 years.....	6,702	19.9
Black or African American.....	16,811	17.8	Female householder, no husband present.....	6,693	19.9
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	338	0.4	With own children under 18 years.....	4,203	12.5
Asian.....	2,066	2.2	Nonfamily households.....	10,927	32.4
Asian Indian.....	220	0.2	Householder living alone.....	8,950	26.6
Chinese.....	530	0.6	Householder 65 years and over.....	3,191	9.5
Filipino.....	249	0.3	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	13,171	39.1
Japanese.....	34	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over ..	7,820	23.2
Korean.....	66	0.1	Average household size.....	2.74	(X)
Vietnamese.....	283	0.3	Average family size.....	3.35	(X)
Other Asian <sup>1</sup> .....	684	0.7	<b>HOUSING OCCUPANCY</b>		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	34	-	Total housing units.....	34,837	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	4	-	Occupied housing units.....	33,675	96.7
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	5	-	Vacant housing units.....	1,162	3.3
Samoa.....	6	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup> .....	19	-	occasional use.....	43	0.1
Some other race.....	9,728	10.3	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.5	(X)
Two or more races.....	7,338	7.8	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	3.3	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			<b>HOUSING TENURE</b>		
<i>or more other races: <sup>3</sup></i>			Occupied housing units.....	33,675	100.0
White.....	60,758	64.4	Owner-occupied housing units.....	18,375	54.6
Black or African American.....	21,970	23.3	Renter-occupied housing units.....	15,300	45.4
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	876	0.9	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.98	(X)
Asian.....	2,534	2.7	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.46	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	231	0.2			
Some other race.....	15,580	16.5			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

<sup>2</sup> Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

<sup>3</sup> In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



---

# HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

---

**Home Sales** (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

**Subsidized Housing Units** (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

**Public Housing Units** (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 781

Conventional Federal: 1,254

**Rental Assistance**(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 273

Federal (Section 8): 804



# TRANSPORTATION

---

## TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

---

Brockton is strategically located between State Route 128 and Interstate 495, the inner and outer loops around Boston. State Routes 3, 24, and 28 provide easy access to the air, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston and Providence.

### Major Highways

Principal highways are the Fall River Expressway (State Route 24) and State Route 28. Both roads run N-S, connecting Brockton to the Boston area and to different points of the southern coastal region.

### Rail

Commuter rail service to South Station, Boston, will be available in 1996-97 on the Middleborough Line from Brockton. Conrail provides freight service to Brockton. Contact number: (617) 783-6222

### Bus

Brockton is a member of the Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT), which provides fixed route service within Brockton, to surrounding towns, and the Ashmont MBTA Station. BAT also provides paratransit services to the elderly and disabled. The Plymouth and Brockton Street Railway Company provides commuter bus service to Boston. Bloom's Bus Lines, Inc. provides limited service to Boston.

### Other

The Norwood Memorial Airport, a Reliever (RL) facility, is easily accessible. It has 2 asphalt runways 4,001'x 150' and 4,007'x 150'. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



# CULTURE AND RECREATION

---

## LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

## MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Fuller Museum of Art

455 Oak Street

(617) 588-6000

## RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

**Recreational Facilities** (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



# MISCELLANEOUS

---

## HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

### Hospitals

Brockton Hospital  
Cardinal Cushing General Hospital

### Long Term Care

Braemoor Rehab. & Nursing Center  
Brockwood Hlth Care Nursing Home  
Embassy House Healthcare Nursing Home  
Green Oak Nursing Home  
Lutheran Home Of Brockton Inc  
Madalawn Nursing Home  
Regent Park Long Term Care  
St. Joseph Manor Nursing Home  
West Acres Nursing Home  
Woodridge Hse Nursin & Rehab. Center

### Hospices

None

### Rest Homes

Village Rest Home 2 Of Brockton

### UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)



---

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

---

The Department of Housing and Community Development would like to thank the many government agencies noted as having provided information for the community profiles. In addition to these agencies, the Regional Transit Authorities assisted with the transportation component of the profiles. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of many city and town officials, which enabled us to include information obtainable only at the local level. DHCD would also like to thank the following individuals for providing special help: Leslie A. Kirwan, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Local Services, Department of Revenue; Richard Shibley, Deputy Secretary of State; Bob Beattie of the Department of Public Health; Charles W. Clifford from the Martha's Vineyard Commission; Dennis Coffey of the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction; Donna Fletcher and Christian Jacqz of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; James Griffin from the MBTA; Karen Loh from Banker & Tradesman; Todd Maio from the Department of Welfare; Geoffrey Morton from the Election Division of the Secretary of State's Office; Stephen R. Muench of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission; Rol Murrow of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Mary Ann Neary and Emmanuelle Fletcher, reference librarians at the State House Library; Jeff Nellhaus from the Department of Education; and George Sanborn, reference librarian at the State Transportation Library.

NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.